

amount of funding from the board or council as determined by the Secretary.

(2) **SCOPE OF REVIEW.**—A review under paragraph (1) shall examine whether any funds collected by the board or council are used to directly or indirectly fund or subsidize an entity or association that engages in influencing legislation or governmental action or policy.

(3) **REPORT.**—The Secretary shall submit a report on the findings of any review under this subsection and make recommendations for any actions that should be taken as a result of the findings to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate.

SEC. 7. PERIODIC REFERENDA.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, not less than 4 nor more than 6 years after the date of enactment of this Act or the date on which the Secretary determines the results of the most recent referendum for a promotion program, whichever is earlier, and not less than once every 5 years thereafter, the Secretary shall conduct a referendum to determine whether to approve or terminate the order under the promotion program and whether refunds should be made under the order.

(b) **PROCEDURE.**—The referendum under subsection (a) shall be conducted using the same eligibility and other procedures as the referendum used to approve the original order under the promotion program, except that, notwithstanding any other provision of law, no greater than a simple majority of eligible producers shall be required to approve the making of refunds to producers.

(c) **TERMINATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—If the percentage of persons voting to approve the order does not equal or exceed the percentage of persons necessary to approve the continuation of the original order under the promotion program, the Secretary shall terminate the order.

(2) **TIME OF TERMINATION.**—The Secretary shall terminate the order at the end of the marketing year during which the referendum is conducted.

(d) **REFUNDS.**—If the making of refunds is approved in a referendum under subsection (a), the Secretary shall establish a procedure for making the refunds not later than 180 days after the date of the referendum.

(e) **COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION.**—Notwithstanding subsection (b), a cooperative association may not vote on behalf of the members of the association in a referendum conducted under this section.

(f) **INACTIVE PROMOTION PROGRAMS.**—The Secretary shall not conduct a referendum of a promotion program under this section if the Secretary determines that the promotion program is not active.

NATIONAL FARMERS UNION,

November 7, 1995.

Re legislation to regulate producer assessments for promotion funding.

Hon. RUSS FEINGOLD,
U.S. Senator,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR FEINGOLD: On behalf of the nearly 300,000 farm families of the National Farmers Union, I write to express our strong support of the Agricultural Promotion Accountability Act of 1995. Many of our members pay multiple mandatory assessments for promotion funding, amounting to thousands of dollars per year, per producer. Our 1995 national policy statement calls for legislative safeguards to insure the use of promotion funds is controlled by the producers who pay the assessments, and that dollars are used to enhance producer profitability. Your proposed legislation will help address several items of concern.

(1) It is essential that mandatory assessments are not used for lobbying. Although

lobbying is prohibited under current law, your bill makes the prohibition meaningful by clearly defining the prohibited activities.

(2) It is essential that producers control how their dollars are spent. Your legislation ensures that decisions are made by independent, accountable boards. Your legislation also helps ensure that all producers have a voice, not just those who belong to a specific trade association. Your legislation further promotes producer control by prohibiting bloc voting.

(3) It is essential that an independent review of funding be conducted annually. We support naming the Inspector General of USDA to conduct this review.

(4) It is essential that periodic referenda are held to provide producers the opportunity to review whether the promotion program is worth continuing. Your legislation achieves this by specifying a referendum every five years, including a referendum on refunds.

(5) It is essential that assessments are used for activities to enhance producer price. The proposed legislation meets this goal by prohibiting use of funding for influencing regulatory bodies, and other purposes not specifically linked to product promotion.

Thank you for your work on behalf of family farmers. Promotion assessments affect nearly every farmer and the topic always produces much debate whenever discussed by producers. Your legislation is a positive step in addressing many concerns. We look forward to working with you to pass this bill.

Sincerely,

LELAND SWENSON,
President.●

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 295

At the request of Mrs. KASSEBAUM, the name of the Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] was added as a cosponsor of S. 295, a bill to permit labor management cooperative efforts that improve America's economic competitiveness to continue to thrive, and for other purposes.

S. 968

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Tennessee [Mr. FRIST] was added as a cosponsor of S. 968, a bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to prohibit the import, export, sale, purchase, and possession of bear viscera or products that contain or claim to contain bear viscera, and for other purposes.

S. 978

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the names of the Senator from Montana [Mr. BURNS] and the Senator from Rhode Island [Mr. CHAFEE] were added as cosponsors of S. 978, a bill to facilitate contributions to charitable organizations by codifying certain exemptions from the Federal securities laws, to clarify the inapplicability of anti-trust laws to charitable gift annuities, and for other purposes.

S. 984

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Virginia [Mr. WARNER] was added as a cosponsor of S. 984, a bill to protect the fundamental right of a parent to direct the upbringing of a child, and for other purposes.

S. 1058

At the request of Mr. WELLSTONE, the names of the Senator from Illinois [Mr. SIMON] and the Senator from Michigan

[Mr. LEVIN] were added as cosponsors of S. 1058, a bill to provide a comprehensive program of support for victims of torture.

S. 1178

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the name of the Senator from Iowa [Mr. HARKIN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1178, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of colorectal screening under part B of the Medicare Program.

S. 1335

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. BUMPER] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1335, a bill to provide for the protection of the flag of the United States and free speech, and for other purposes.

S. 1432

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Delaware [Mr. BIDEN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1432, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide for increases in the amounts of allowable earnings under the Social Security earnings limit for individuals who have attained retirement age, and for other purposes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 197—TO CONGRATULATE THE NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY WILDCATS

Mr. SIMON (for himself and Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 197

Whereas the Northwestern University Wildcats are the 1995 Big Ten Conference football champions and have been invited to participate in the Rose Bowl on January 1, 1996, in Pasadena, California;

Whereas the winning of the 1995 Big Ten Conference football championship by the Wildcats completes an unprecedented 1-year turnaround of the Northwestern University football program; and

Whereas Northwestern University is committed to athletic competitiveness without diminution of scholastic standards: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates Northwestern University and its athletes, coaches, faculty, students, administration, and alumni on the winning of the 1995 Big Ten Conference football championship by the Wildcats and on the receipt by the Wildcats of an invitation to compete in the 1996 Rose Bowl; and

(2) recognizes and commends Northwestern University for its pursuit of athletic as well as academic excellence.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

THE PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN ACT OF 1995

SMITH AMENDMENT NO. 3080

Mr. SMITH proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 1833) to amend title 18,